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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Indonesia

DATE DISTR. 3 December 1948

SUBJECT Views of an Influential Official of the Indonesian Republic

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1. The government will be able to suppress the revolution. Although, according to the calculations of the leftists, there is widespread unrest and the leftists have infiltrated into the government, the affairs in the realm of government are good. Thanks to those among them who remained extremely nationalistic, the people are a strong arm of support to the government. The Siliwangi Division and the MBB of Jasin have been of great service in the cleaning-up operations.
- Communism finds fertile ground in the Republic because of all the varied difficulties in making a living which the people in Republic territory constantly experience which are a result of the continuing Dutch blockade. Among other places, Communism thrives in the poor areas of Pati, Bojonegoro, and Poerwodadi and the dry hilly terrain in the southern parts of Soerakarta and Jogjakarta (Wonosari). This is true now and was the case in the years before the war. The economic depression, a result of the blockade, which will work to the advantage of the spread of Communism, is still persisting. By their words and by the blockade, the Dutch are supporting the activities of the Communists. The Dutch are not yet hindering the Republican forces in pursuing the revolutionists when they reach the status quo line (sql). The situation has so developed that the blockade must be broken quickly. This is the primary requisite for reconstruction. Governmental regulations for internal security are secondary to this.

3. Hatta has promised to increase the strength of the MB to 10,000. In this connection uniforms, weapons, and transport facilities are needed since the Republic must go into action in a short time if internal security is to be consolidated as quickly and efficiently as possible. Where necessary, the Republican national police will take steps to control the harbors of Toeban and Patjitan.
4. Hatta recently flew to Sumatra, but has still had no business with Cockran. Sjahrir, accompanied by Ali Boediardjo and Salimo, is going to China and afterwards to Paris, but will return later.
5. The Soekarno-Hatta government is very stable but must still be careful in giving out information. The men who work productively and deserve praise are the old

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exemplars such as Dr. Sutan, the old gentleman Kolopaking, the Djanoeramodi/
Harmonis team, Minister Natsir, Minister Saifuddin, Ojetot Soekrato, Nasution,
and many others.

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